



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200
April 13, 2004

Southcentral Regional Office

717-705-4949
FAX-717-705-4930

Mr. Mike Bedard, P.E.
Arcadis G & M, Inc.
6 Terry Drive, Suite 300
Newtown, PA 18940



Re: Public Water Supply/Bally Borough
Hydrogeologic Report Requirements
[REDACTED] Farm Well Sites
Washington Township, Berks County

Dear Mr. Bedard:

I am writing to summarize several of the points made during our April 7, 2004 site meeting. During that meeting we discussed the possibility of developing a new Community Water Supply well at the two sites that we visited, the Shuhler south site and the [REDACTED] north site. Both sites are located on the east side of Route 100, north of the Borough of Bally. Both sites have positive and negative aspects that must be considered.

The [REDACTED] south site is located adjacent to the Borough of Bally. A test well drilled on the site appears to have a substantial sustainable yield and the minimum Zone I wellhead protection area requirements can be met. However, the long-term viability of a well at this location is a concern that needs to be considered. The potential to impact or be impacted by the contamination plume associated with the American Household, Inc. (AHI) clean up site in Bally appears to be a reality. Further complicating the long-term viability of the south site is the additional potential stress placed on the aquifer by the proposed, adjacent golf course development. Any aquifer testing of a well at the Shuhler south site must rigorously assess those potential outcomes. A water supplier, in this case Bally Borough, must take reasonable measures to protect a source from foreseeable sources of contamination. The water supplier has an obligation to make reasonable efforts to obtain the highest quality sources available. To that end, serious consideration must be given to moving the proposed well site to the [REDACTED] north site.

The [REDACTED] north site is located just south of the intersection of Kutztown Road and Route 100 at a distance that appears to offer more protection from the AHI plume. The site that we visited, an undeveloped meadow, offers the possibility for adequate wellhead protection. A PDNI search listed no conflicts. The impacts from the proposed golf course operation can be controlled. It seems reasonable to drill a test well and more completely assess that site as a location for the proposed community public water supply well for Bally Borough.

The normal permitting issues – well construction, Zone I isolation, impacts to adjacent water users, impacts on adjacent water resources, SWIP, etc. exist regardless of which site is ultimately chosen. During our site visit we discussed the possibility of an extended term, (7 days) aquifer test. We also discussed the need to locate observation points along strike and along mapped fractures. Wetlands and surface streams must be observed before, during and after the aquifer test using weirs and piezometers as necessary. Please review my letter dated 2/23/04. I am anxious to see the aquifer test addendum mentioned in that letter.

Thank you for arranging the recent site visit. Call with questions and please keep me informed as you proceed.

Sincerely,



H. Thomas Fridirici, P.G.
Hydrogeologist
Water Supply Management Program

cc: Toni Hemerka, Bally Borough
Alysa Suero, DRBC
Mitch Cron, US EPA
Asuquo Effiong, PA DEP

AR300220